

Sisters' Department.

Only Thee.

BY MRS. E. M. SIGERFOOSE.

None, only Thee, my Father, God;
None, only Thee,
In all the crowded paths of life
No refuge safe or sure I see;
No refuge, save in Thee.

Not one but Thee, mine only Friend,
Not one but Thee
To clasp my trembling hand
Mid all this deep and troubled sea;
Not one, but Thee.

No arm, no strong right arm,
No arm save Thine
To shield me when in vain I seek
A shelter from the storms of time;
No arm, no arm but Thine.

Not one, not one true, faithful friend,
None only Thee,
Whose tender voice through surges wild
Of grief and care, brings peace to me;
Not one, not one but Thee.

No loving heart, my Father,
None like Thine
To feel this weight, or pitying care,
To lift it from this heart of mine;
No heart, no love like Thine.

Congratulatory.

Dear sisters: How pleased I am to see so many of you sending in your good letters to the EVANGELIST. Now that we have got started, let us not forget that if we would keep the ball rolling we must give it an occasional push. I can truthfully say that I have been surprised, as well as much pleased at the success of your endeavors at writing for the paper, and my prayer is that you may, one and all, persevere in the good work so nobly begun. Though your articles may not receive any public commendation, do not think it unappreciated; for if you could witness how often we read and re-read the dear missives, you would know that your work was not in vain.

An editor once told me that a large majority of readers seldom read lengthy articles, and therefore when writing for a paper we should condense as much as possible. Although we as writers should be more pleased to know that our "piece" had been read ten times by one person, than that ten persons had read it but once, nevertheless we also wish that many might be induced to read it. I thought the hint a good one, and that is why a lengthy article is never seen over my signature.

I stood by the bed side of a neighbor lady a few days ago, as she lay grappling with death. Although past sixty years of age and unmarried, with no one but herself to care for, she seemed to have no time through life to do anything for the Master. Her health had been failing for several years, but on she went plying her needle, overtaxing her strength, in order to add another and another dollar to her already sufficient fund. She was attacked by diphtheria the effects of which carried her off in the course of a few days, and the poor body about which she had had so much care was laid away in the cold earth: and the hard earned treasured dollars, will now fall into the hands of people who were well able to care for themselves. We all pitied her in her mistaken course; but so she lived, and to all appearances so died. How I did wish, while watching the work of death; that she had some time during our acquaintance and associations together, given some evidence of an acquaintance with Jesus; but nothing of the kind could I recall. She had been quite deaf for many years. The sermon of her funeral was based upon Eccl. 12: 1, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

This verse of itself is quite a good sermon. Let us, who are now starting into the after-noon of life, remember, that the years at most are becoming few and precious, that yet remain for us, in which to finish the work we want to do for Jesus.

The frequent calamities by storm, fire, flood and disaster, during the past year have almost deprived me of what little confidence I had in these earthly homes. And then when the uncertainty of life and the inability to buy happiness with accumulated wealth, is apparent all around us, we become totally discouraged with these earthly toys, and turn our eyes in another direction, and look for a chance to work at something that will entitle us to a home in that "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens; where sin with its consequent troubles will not be permitted to enter. I am glad we have been told of a place where the society is pure, and "whosoever loveth and maketh a lie" will not be admitted to its peaceful climate. Let us strive earnestly to become purified that we may, at the end of our race, be fit subjects to enter in through the gate into that holy city. In a private

letter from a sister not long ago, she made the remark: "Oh, it pays to work for Jesus." How true, and how encouraging if we remember it, through the cares and trials of life.

Ever your well-wishing sister.

MRS. LAURA SLOTTOR.

HOPE.

MY DEAR SISTERS;

I can stand it no longer, when I see so many sisters are trying with all their might to do their duty in writing for the EVANGELIST. Sisters you are doing the best you can, and that is what all of us can do if we only try; but if we do as I have done—be idle—what can our hope be? O, let us make a resolution to do all the good we can. And if we should crowd the paper, I would say to our dear editor, (for he has a good big heart) give us more room; enlarge the paper. Let us do our duty, and then we can have a sure hope of being rewarded for it.

Paul, when writing to the Thessalonians 1: 5: 8 encouraged them, telling them how they should comfort one another, and edify one another, and to put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for an helmet the hope of salvation; and at another place telling them that God gave them everlasting consolation, and good hope though grace.

The Lord is always ready and willing to help us in our daily duty toward him, and by educating ourselves more in that way that is good, true and so noble, and clinging close to God, we surely can look ahead with a hope of a glorious reward. Let us gird up the loins of our minds, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto us at the revelation of Christ. If we live up to what God has presented to us in that blessed book, the Bible, we do very well. Dear sisters; let us try by the help of God to do something some way or other, either by writing or talking to some one that is in darkness, to come to light. We all have a talent; let us improve it. I can not do very much, but will try, by asking the prayers of the brethren and sisters, to do the best of my ability.

MRS. A. E. GLENNY.

Waterloo, Iowa.

The Master Called For Thee.

"And when she had so said, she went and called Mary, her sister, secretly, saying: The master has come and calleth for thee. John 11: 28." Those were the joyful words Martha spoke to Mary, for in the town of Bethany there lived a brother and two sisters, so pleasantly; but alas, death had come to that happy home, and robbed those sisters of their dear brother. And now the Master had come to them. What a comfort to those sisters to have the Lord of earth and skies visit and comfort them in their sad bereavement. O, if there were only more Marys in the world, that when the Master would call they would go quickly as Mary did. The Master has called for over eighteen hundred years, and yet how sad that so many thousands do not heed the most glorious call that ever came to man, or ever will. Such a liberal and exalted invitation. Sinner, the Lord of glory holds out to you the greatest that ever could be given. Life everlasting, if you will only conquer self and become submissive to the will of God you will then be an heir of heaven, a child of grace. O what heart should not melt before such offered kindness. Those that enjoy it should never wish to offer any thing less to Jesus than all our hearts, and all that we are. We are somewhat inclined to be like Martha: too much troubled about the things of this world. As we travel over life's rugged road but once, the nearest we can atone for our past wrongs and sins, is by redoubled holiness and industry in the future. Stop, dear sinner, and think what you should be.

How grandly is the Christian character described in the word of God. What holiness and meekness, gentleness, devotion, faith and love, joy and peace should adorn the Christian while we are pilgrims on this earth. We should love and cherish those heavenly graces. Life is only lent to us, and ere long the Master will call for all, saint and sinner. Death will find us all prepared or unprepared. As a man soweth so shall he also reap. Then how important it is for all to make good use of the talents God has given us. When God created man he created him for a noble purpose, and yet how sorrowful it is to see so many neglecting the very work that was given to them to do; to lay up treasures in heaven. O joyful thought, that we are in possession of such a privilege; and yet the bleating sheep, and the lowing cattle, and the beast of burden, and the feathery songsters of the air, are serving their purpose, for which God created them, better than man. What a pitiful fact when we think of the

blood bought millions, that should be saved and walk in the new Jerusalem, and dwell before the throne of God. We should daily strive and pray to check the attachments to this dying world. "The law of the Lord is perfect, more to be desired than gold, yea more than fine gold, and sweeter also than honey comb." The holy scriptures are able to make us wise unto salvation. They will be as a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path. There could not be a more precious prize, or a surer guide to immortality. They will fit us for life's duties, and prepare us to be ready when the Master calls.

CORA I SHOBELL.

Let us love one another.

"And this is his commandment; That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another as he gave us commandment. What a blessed promise it is; how cheering to know that no one need perish, but that all may be saved, that will love and obey the Savior, Dear reader; can we not all love and obey the Lord? If our conscience is clean, and our hearts right in the sight of God, earthly calamity will prove a blessing; trial and suffering will make us strong. The Savior stands before us in his human nature complete, and he would make us like himself: true in every purpose, feeling and thought; true in our whole heart. This it is to be a true Christian. The person who has the most of the life of Christ in his heart is the most true person on the earth. Let us all try to love one another. There is no fear in love, but love casteth out fear.

Let love to Christ become the law and the life of everything we do. Then the place where we toil, and the home where we rest, will become as attractive to angels as the dungeons where the martyrs suffered. I desire an interest in the prayers of all Christians, that I may be a true follower of the blessed Savior.

REBECCA E. FOUTZ.

Montevallo, Mo.

Summary.

So it comes through the BRETHREN EVANGELIST, from the pen of one who we have reason to believe has formerly opposed anything and everything outside the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as being needful for man's salvation. If the Gospel was sufficiently clear and plain in the eighteenth century, for persons who were brought up and taught the doctrines set forth in confession of faith and creeds, to see that "rationalism" was not baptism, and that thrice dipping was so clearly revealed that they were forced, as honest persons, to accept it and be immersed into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, it does seem to me that in the closing of this nineteenth century, an age of education, men and women should be able to understand the Gospel of Christ, and especially brethren who are called to the ministry. If brethren are called to preach the word and are not sufficiently established and confirmed in the faith to preach the one Gospel baptism, by trine dipping and practice the same, and receive no person who was not baptized that way, and who does not believe, and preach, and practice, the ordinances of washing of the saint's feet, the eating of the Lord's supper, the communion of the body of Christ and the salutation or kiss of charity as an ordinance, should be taken, as an Appollas was, by Priscilla and Aquilla, and taught the way of the Lord more perfectly. Persons who do not believe, preach and practice the articles of our avowed creed, are not established in the faith, and as a consequence should not be ministers in the Brethren church. Tracts may be published and sown thickly all over the great mission field, referring the reader to the Gospel of Christ, where he will find the subject written upon clearly revealed, and when convinced he will soon find the CHURCH that will assist and help all such to come to a full knowledge of the truth. But as soon as you put out a summary of the faith and practices of the Brethren church, our boasting that we have the Bible and the Bible alone as our creed, will be buried in the ruins of ancient and modern tradition, and we need no more say, the Gospel of Jesus Christ and nothing more nor less. Brethren let us hold fast to the faith once delivered unto the saints. If a summary should be like the Gospel, we do not need it for we have the Gospel, whose author is God, and no one can successfully deny it. If the summary would not be as the Gospel, we certainly would not want it, and hence the only safe ground is to hold fast to the old, old story, as told by him that spake as never man spake; live, talk, preach and practice the great and grand principles taught by them. In short, let us leave good enough alone. May God bless his cause abundantly everywhere.

J. B. WAMPLER.

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